

## Message Text

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51

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 EURE-00 NEA-10 SSO-00 NSCE-00

INRE-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-20 RSC-01 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 ACDA-19 DRC-01 /121 W

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O 261840Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8999

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 6137

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, EC, BE

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR'S CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER VAN ELSLANDE

1. TODAY I CALLED ON FOREIGN MINISTER VAN ELSLANDE AT HIS REQUEST. FIRST, HE EXPRESSED HIS GRATIFICATION AT THE RECEPTION ACCORDED HIM ON THE OCCASION OF HIS VISIT TO WASHINGTON AND, ESPECIALLY, AT THE CONVERSATION WITH THE SECRETARY AND DEPUTY SECRETARY. HAVING CARRIED AWAY THE MOST FAVORABLE IMPRESSION OF THESE FRIENDLY AND INFORMATIVE MEETINGS, HE NOW FELT ALL THE MORE GRIEVED AT NOT HAVING BEEN INFORMED ABOUT THE CONTENTS OF THE SECRETARY'S EXCHANGES WITH CHAIRMAN BREZHNEV AT MOSCOW AND ABOUT THE ALERT OF US FORCES. HE EXPRESSED HIMSELF PERPLEXED BY THE EUROPEAN ALLIES HAVING BEEN REDUCED TO LEARNING ABOUT THESE TRANSACTIONS FROM THE WIRE SERVICES, FOR THE REDEPLOYMENT OF US FORCES IN EUROPE AFFECTED ALL OF NATO AND HENCE THE SECURITY OF EUROPE. THE MINISTER SAID THAT, IN HIS OPINION, THE US OMISSION OF TIMELY INFORMATION MIGHT PROVIDE AMMUNITION FOR THOSE EUROPEAN STATES THAT, IN THE PAST, HAVE BEEN CRITICAL OF THE US PENCHANT FOR UNILATERAL ACTION. VAN ELSLANDE ASKED ME EXPRESSLY TO BRING THE ABOVE TO THE ATTENTION OF THE US GOVERNMENT.

2. VAN ELSLANDE SAID THAT, HAVING UNBURDENED HIMSELF OF THIS COMPLAINT, HE WANTED ME TO INFORM THE US GOVERNMENT OF AN  
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INITIATIVE HE HAD JUST TAKEN WHICH, HE THOUGHT WOULD CONVEY

TO THE US GOVERNMENT BELGIUM'S DESIRE TO BE OF CONCRETE  
ASSISTANCE TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF UN RESOLUTION 340. EARLIER  
TODAY, HE HAD CONVOKED THE EIGHT EC AMBASSADORS TO BELGIUM.  
HE REQUESTED THEM TO TRANSMIT TO THEIR GOVERNMENTS THE  
FOLLOWING BELGIUM PROPOSAL: THE EC SHOULD DECLARE ITS  
READINESS TO SUPPLY MILITARY CONTINGENTS TO THE UN PEACE-KEEPING  
FORCE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. ALTHOUGH FRENCH AND UK TROOPS COULD  
NOT BE PART OF THIS FORCE, FRANCE AND THE UK SHOULD SHARE IN  
THE EXPENDITURE INCURRED BY THE OTHER SEVEN IN FIELDING THIS  
FORCE. HE SAID THAT A BELGIAN BATTALION WAS READY AND QTE COULD  
BE MOVED WITHIN ONE HOUR UNQTE TO THE MIDDLE EAST.  
STRAUSZ-HUPE

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